

CASE: 1260

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

28 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED IN APR 93, TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT DIED IN THE SOUTH AFTER THEIR CAPTURE," CORRELATES TO REFNO 1260-1-01. LINE ENTRY #31 CORRELATES BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME. (REF 10)

15 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH OF THE 27 DIED IN CAPTIVITY CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. PRESENTATION OF THE D.I.C. LIST AS A GUIDE FOR SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM INVESTIGATION. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 1260, WHICH THE VIETNAMESE RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER JOINT INVESTIGATION. (REF 11)

4 May 1994

ON 14 DECEMBER 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED SEVERAL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO 84 CASES ASSIGNED TO THE JTF-FA SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM (SRT). ONE DOCUMENT TITLED, "REGARDING U.S. PERSONNEL WHO DIED WHILE HELD CAPTIVE IN SOUTHERN VIETNAM", PROVIDES INFORMATION CORRELATING WITH REFNO 1260-1-01 AN UNRESOLVED CASE. CORRELATION IS BASED ON NAME, RANK, INCIDENT DATE AND LOCATION OF LOSS. (REF 12)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 20 DECEMBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1261-0-01 (ACCNO 6196)	Status: (A) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED	
Name: HEEP, WILLIAM ARTHUR	Date Status assigned: 15 Aug 1974	
Nationality AMERICAN	Race CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit #
Service NAVY	Sex MALE	Blood type A #
Grade 03	Hair BROWN	Complexion #
SSAN	Eyes BROWN	Weapon #
Serial No DATA	Height 73 in /1.85 mtrs	Weapon No #
Birth date 6 Jun 1942	Weight 189 lb / 85.6 kg	Duty pos PILOT
Home State CALIFORNIA	Religion PROTESTANT	PW Camp \$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type:	WATER SITE
UTM:	48QYF640450
Lat/Long:	182850N / 1073001E
Country:	OVER WATER - VN
Military Region:	\$
Mission Province:	VN - OVERWATER
(formerly):	
Mission District:	VN - OVERWATER
Mission Date:	24 Aug 1968
Mission Category:	3
Local Analysis:	None.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

No Information Available

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4B	Serial: 150434
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J79
Call Sign: TAPROOM 307	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

# = Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.  
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

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=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

23 March 1976

ON 24 AUGUST 1968 LT WILLIAM A. HEEP WAS THE PILOT OF AN F4B AIRCRAFT (#150434, CALL SIGN TAPROOM 307), PREPARING TO TAKEOFF FROM THE USS CONSTELLATION FOR A STRIKE MISSION IN NORTH VIETNAM. AFTER THE AIRCRAFT WAS CATAPULTED AND WAS MOVING DOWN THE CATAPULT TRACK, THE LEFT TIRE EXPLODED. THE AIRCRAFT CONTINUED DOWN THE TRACK AND OFF THE SHIP. THE AIRCRAFT THEN BEGAN TO ANGLE UPWARDS AND ROLL TO THE RIGHT. THE RADAR INTERCEPT OFFICER EJECTED JUST PRIOR TO THE AIRCRAFT ENTERING THE WATER IN A NEARLY INVERTED POSITION IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES YF 640 450.

THE PILOT WAS NOT OBSERVED TO EJECT PRIOR TO IMPACT. HOWEVER, THE PILOT IN HIS SEAT CAME OUT OF THE WATER AFTER IMPACT, TRAVELED HORIZONTALLY FOR ABOUT 30 FEET, AND THEN DISAPPEARED BENEATH THE FRONT OF THE SHIP. THE CO-PILOT WAS RESCUED, BUT SEARCH EFFORTS PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL IN LOCATING LT. HEEP. (REF 1)

AN OVERWATER/AT-SEA CASUALTY RESOLUTION OPERATION WAS CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD OF JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1973 TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY/DESIRABILITY OF EXPANDING SUCH OPERATIONS TO BE USED IN CASES SUCH AS THIS. BASED ON THE COMBINED FACTORS OF COST AND LACK OF ANY POSITIVE RESULTS WHATSOEVER, THE AT-SEA OPERATIONS WERE TERMINATED. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING.

ON 15 AUGUST 1974 THE ARMED SERVICES GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICE CONCURRED WITH THE JCRC RECOMMENDATION THAT THE REMAINS OF LT HEEP ARE NOT RECOVERABLE, AND FURTHER DIRECTED THAT THE CASE REVERT TO INACTIVE STATUS AND SEARCH PLANS BE DISCONTINUED. LT HEEP IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, REMAINS NONRECOVERABLE. (REF 2)

=== REFERENCES ===

23 March 1976

REFERENCES USED: 1. MSG, USS CONSTELLATION, AUGUST 1968. 2. LTR, ASGRO, 15 AUG 74.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

13 December 1993

DURING THE 28 JULY 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI, A LIST OF CASES INVOLVING 168 UNACCOUNTED-FOR PERSONNEL PRESUMABLY LOST OVER WATER

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AT LEAST 10 KILOMETERS FROM THE COAST OF VIETNAM WAS PASSED TO THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. THE VIETNAMESE WERE ASKED TO UNILATERALLY REVIEW THEIR RECORDS FOR RELEVANT INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THESE CASES.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

1 April 1976

ENTER YF 640 450 AS INCIDENT SITE BASED ON NAVY/MARINE ALL LOST PRINTOUT.